

New Technologies for Learning Showcase

Activity Sheet: Web 2.0 Series

FLICKR: FREE ONLINE PHOTOSHARING FOR TEACHERS & STUDENTS

Flickr is a great tool for photo sharing and provides a suite of web services, which allow users to publish their images online. Visit: <http://www.flickr.com>

In this activity you will

- Explore the Flickr Photosharing Website to discover images
- Use the Flickr Photosharing Website to share images
- Discover some educational uses for Flickr

Benefits:

- Allows users to upload, share and comment on images for free
- Easy-to-use tool, which can be used for both educational and social purposes
- Provides a space to create engaging image-based learning resources and activities.

Follow up activity:

At the end of this activity, consider the following questions:

What did you learn by doing this activity?
How will you use this tool to enhance learning for your students?
Now, identify a specific learning activity to trial. When will you do this?
Who could you network with/show this to/share your trial with?

The following activities have been included:

- ACTIVITY 1: Finding Images
- ACTIVITY 2: Create Your Own Flickr Account
- ACTIVITY 3: Upload an Image to Flickr

Outcomes:

Participants will:

- Gain an understanding of Photosharing tools and their popularity with users from around the world
- Develop skills in locating images using Flickr's search tools
- Develop skills in preparing images for upload to photosharing sites
- Develop skills in uploading and sharing images via Flickr
- Develop skills in adding titles, descriptions, notes and comments on Flickr
- Gain an understanding of the educational uses of online photosharing tools

Resources Required:

- Internet Access
- Image Editing Tools may be required – Picasa, Photoshop Elements, The Gimp or other software as preferred.
- Participants will need to either bring a photograph or image with them, or bring a camera to capture images during the workshop.

Target Audience

- Beginners who are new to using online technologies in their teaching practice
- Experienced eLearning practitioners who would like to improve their use of images and social networking tools in teaching and learning.

About Flickr

At the most basic level Flickr offers free hosting and viewing of you photos online.

Developed and launched in 2002, the Flickr photosharing service has become one of the most popular online photosharing services, and is currently being used by more than from around the world.

Flickr allows you to share your photos online, using a suite of easy-to-use tools that allow you to:

- **Upload:** Upload from your desktop, send by email, or use your cameraphone.
- **Organise:** Use collections, sets, and tags to organise your photos so others can easily find and engage with them.
- **Share:** Use groups and privacy controls to share your photos.
- **Map:** Share where your photos were taken, and browse photos by location.
- **Make Stuff:** Cards, photo books, framed prints and a range of integrated commercial services
- **Keep in Touch:** Communication tools to allow you to connect and network with others, or to keep in touch with family and friends.

One of the strengths of the Flickr site is that it allows students and staff to access their digital work from any computer with internet access, regardless of whether it is at school, home or elsewhere.

For further information on Flickr visit the website and go on the **Flickr Tour:** <http://flickr.com/tour/> or view the **Getting to Know Flickr Screencast by Jeff Utecht for the K12 Online Conference:** <http://snipurl.com/10jhs>.

Examples: Using Flickr in Teaching and Learning

Flickr is currently being used by a range of educators in Australia and around the world, who are exploring its possibilities for use in teaching and learning. Check out the following collections to gain ideas and inspiration:

- **Jo Kay's Flickr Photos:** Jo uses her photo collection for professional, creative and personal use. You will find images from various educational projects, experiments with Flickr tools, examples of online learning resources created using Flickr and examples of how she is using Flickr with teachers and students. See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jokay>
- **Steven Parker's Flickr Photos:** Steven collects images from a range of projects here, including recording professional development sessions, classroom sessions with students and events at the Teaching and Learning Resource Unit. See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/stevenraymondparker/>
- **CogDog's Photostream - What Can We Do With Flickr?:** CogDog very effectively uses the Flickr tools to create a slide which details the different uses of Flickr. See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cogdog/265279980/>
- **Photos tagged with 'nswlearnscope06':** These images were uploaded by NSW Learnscope project participants during 2006 and tagged with the agreed project tag 'nswlearnscope06'. The tagging system allows for hundreds of teachers from across the state to share their images and resources, make connections and discuss their projects. See: <http://www.flickr.com/search/?w=all&q=nswlearnscope06&m=text>
- **Otago Polytechnic Orientation by Leigh Blackall:** Leigh has created a fantastic orientation of the Otago campus using Flickr. It includes notes, landmarks, instructions and other information useful to a new student or visitor. See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leighblackall/sets/72057594069690071/>
- **BegaTafe's Photos:** Staff from the Bega TAFE Learnscope Team have started sharing images on Flickr. During the year, they will be exploring how Flickr can be used with General Education students, and will also be using Flickr to record our project activities and outcomes. See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/begatafe/>

Educational Uses of Flickr

Flickr can be used for a range of educational purposes. Consider the following ideas for use in your own teaching practice:

- **Visual Story Telling:** Tell a story in 5 frames. See: <http://snipurl.com/1ktsv>
Flickr can be used as a space for students to upload their own visual stories – complete with titles, descriptions and space for their peers to comment and reflect.
- **Instructional Photo Sequences.** See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jokay/sets/1117000/>
Flickr can be used to create instructional resources, which detail the steps a learner must take to complete a task.
- **Assessment Photo Sequences.**
Flickr can be used by students to record assessment tasks in the classroom or the workplace, allowing students, teachers and employers to view and reflect on the student's practical work.
- **Collaborative Recording.** See: NSW Learnscope Project Images:
<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=nswlearnscope06&w=all>
Using Flickr's tagging tools, communities of learner are able to record events, classes or projects in photograph, which can be shared with others.
- **Moblogging.**
Flickr can be used to publish images from your mobile phone. Students and teachers can use this function when researching, undertaking work experience, practicing practical skills or documenting a process.
- **Create or locate a Topic Archive:** Katrina Photos. See: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/katrina/show/>
Collect images which illustrate topic areas being explored by students and publish them as a collection on Flickr.

ACTIVITY 1: Finding Images

Flickr hosts literally millions of images, taken by everyday people from around the world. This collection provides a diverse, creative and extensive range of images, which can be accessed by users using both browsing and search tools.

The broad range of images available on Flickr makes it a useful tool for both publishing and accessing artwork for use in educational resources.

Locate some images using Flickr using the steps below:

1. Go to: <http://www.flickr.com>

2. Click on the Explore Button.

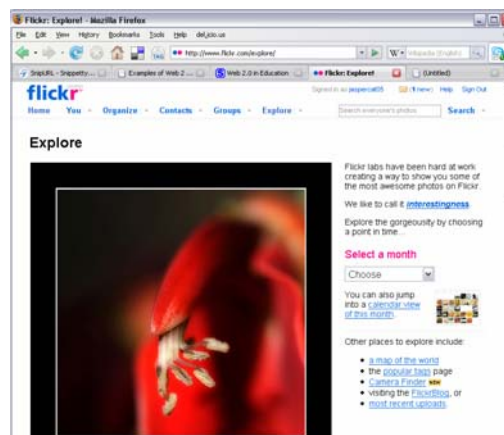
This will take you to the Explore Page – which provides you with an overview of all the ways you can browse, explore and search for images in the Flickr collection.

3. Type a Search Term into the Search Photos Search Box at the top right of the page.
4. Browse your image search results to locate an image that is useful or appealing.
5. Check the copyright permissions on the images you have located.

Flickr users are able to set the copyright they would like to apply to the images they have created.

Many Flickr users allow others to use their images for commercial, educational or personal use.

Ensure that you check the copyright settings on the images you have found, making sure that it is ok for you to use them in the ways that you intend.



Additional Information	Additional Information
© All rights reserved	Some rights reserved.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Taken with a Nikon D50.More propertiesTaken on May 9, 2006See different sizes158 people call this photo a favoriteViewed 3,187 times	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Taken with a Nikon D70.More propertiesTaken on May 15, 2007See different sizesViewed 4 times
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This photo is public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This photo is public
Flag this photo	Flag this photo
All Rights Reserved – not available for use without permission from the owner of this image	Some Rights Reserved – this image is available for use, but you must check the copyright settings the owner has applied

Flickr can be used to source images for all sorts of purposes including:

- Locate images for use as discussion starters in the classroom
- Locate images to illustrate a Powerpoint presentation or an assignment
- Locate images to use in a learning resource
- Locate images which inform a topic of study. For example, students and teachers studying Metal Fabrication could find images from Industry that can be useful in the theory classroom.

ACTIVITY 2: Create Your Own Flickr Account

Flickr provides a free service, which allows both teachers and students to sign up and upload and share their images at no cost.

Users can upload any image file, so not only can Flickr be used to store photographs. You can also use it to store and share graphics, slides and scans.

To setup your account:

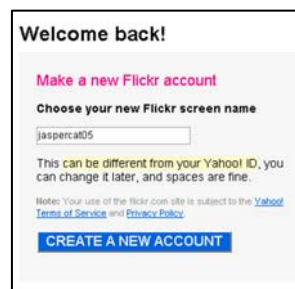
1. Visit the Flickr Website and Choose 'Sign Up' button.
2. Fill out the Registration form – including all details.

Don't forget to make a note of your Username, Password and Secret Question, as these will be important for logging in later!

3. After creating you Yahoo Login, choose your Flickr Screen name. This is the name other Flickr users will see.

That's it – you've created your Flickr Account and you're ready to upload your first photograph!

Click on the Upload button to move to the next activity, or read the Community Guidelines and Explore Flickr further.



ACTIVITY 3: Upload an Image

Uploading images to Flickr is a simple process. The easiest way to share your first image on Flickr is to use the Upload Form on the Flickr website.

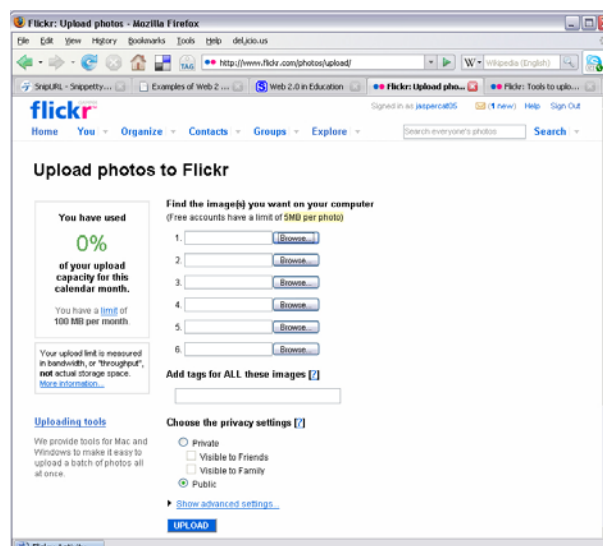
To publish your first photograph, follow the steps below:

1. Login to the Flickr website
2. Browse to the Upload Photos page – which is at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/upload>
3. Click on the 'Browse' button to locate the images you would like to upload. (From you hard drive or Thumb Drive.)

You can upload up to 6 images at a time using the Upload Form.

4. Add tags for the images you are uploading.

A tag is a simple way to label your photos so that they are easy to sort and retrieve. There are no rules, just use whatever words you find useful. Separate each tag with a space.



5. Choose Your Privacy Settings.

Flickr allows you to set permission on each of your photographs.

Public photos are available to everyone. Anyone can share them, anyone can mark them as favourite, and anyone can post them to weblogs outside Flickr.

Private photos can only be shared by you. They cannot be posted to weblogs and do not appear outside Flickr. However, users will be able to locate them with the Flickr search tools.

Completely private photos are only seen by the owner of the image.

6. Click on the Upload Button to publish your selected images to Flickr.

7. Describe Your Images

Flickr allows you to add Titles and Descriptions to your images quickly and easily.

You can use these tools to describe or label images for learning resources.

8. Save Your Images

That's it! You've Uploaded Your First Image, and can start sharing it with your students, colleagues, friends and/or family.



Flickr has a full suite of tools that are designed to make it easier for you to search, upload, share, comment and publish your photos and images. Check out the following sections of the Flickr website for further information:

- Flickr Help Pages: <http://www.flickr.com/help/faq/>
- How to Get the Most Out of Flickr: http://www.flickr.com/get_the_most.gne
- Flickr Tools: <http://www.flickr.com/tools/>

Note: There are a number of other tools that can be used to upload images to Flickr. See: for further information.

Other Things to Do with Flickr:

There are many tools online that use the Flickr service and the images there to create artwork for blogs, prints, products and fun widgets which allow Flickr users to extend their images and discover new ways of using them.

Explore the list of tools below and see what you discover:

- Spell with Flickr: <http://metaatem.net/words/>
- fd's Flickr Toys: <http://bighugelabs.com/flickr/>
- The Great Flickr Tools Collection: <http://www.quickonlinetips.com/archives/2005/03/great-flickr-tools-collection/>
- Guide to Flickr Tools: <http://reviews.digitaltrends.com/guide74.html>
- Tools for Flickr: <http://www.pedagonet.com/other/flickr.htm>
- Flickr Bits and Pieces: <http://www.flickrbits.com/>

For Further Information:

There is a range of useful resources and information about Flickr and how it can be used available online.

For further information on the Educational Uses of Flickr see:

- Getting to Know Flickr Screencast by Jeff Utecht for the K12 Online Conference: <http://snipurl.com/10jhs>
- The Promise of Social Networks: <http://snipurl.com/1klni>
- Flickr Website – About Flickr: <http://flickr.com/about/>
- Flickr on Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flickr>
- Tips for Flickr beginners: <http://snipurl.com/1kln8>
- Tagging pictures is proving useful: <http://snipurl.com/1klkj>
- <http://snipurl.com/1klko>
- Photos for the Masses: <http://snipurl.com/1klkt>
- Yahoo's game of photo tag: <http://snipurl.com/1klkx>
- Pic Your Friends: <http://snipurl.com/1klkz>

Glossary of Terms

Blog	A blog (short for web log) is a website where entries are made and displayed in a reverse chronological order. Blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject, such as food, politics, or local news; some function as more personal online diaries. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability for readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of most early blogs. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blog
Folksonomy	A folksonomy is a user generated taxonomy used to categorize and retrieve web content such as Web pages, photographs and Web links, using open-ended labels called tags. Folksonomic tagging is intended to make a body of information increasingly easy to search, discover, and navigate over time. A well-developed folksonomy is ideally accessible as a shared vocabulary that is both originated by, and familiar to, its primary users. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folksonomy
Moblog	Moblog is a blend of the words mobile and weblog. A mobile weblog, or Moblog, consists of content posted to the Internet from a mobile or portable device, such as a mobile phone or PDA. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moblog
Photosharing	Photo sharing is the publishing or transfer of digital photos online, thus enabling the user to share them with others (whether publically or privately). This functionality is provided through both websites and applications that facilitate the upload and display of images. The term can also be loosely applied to the use of online photo galleries that are setup and managed by individual users, including photoblogs. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photo_sharing
Repository	A repository is a central place where data is stored and maintained. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Repository
Tag	A tag is a (relevant) keyword or term associated with or assigned to a piece of information (like picture, article, or video clip), thus describing the item and enabling keyword-based classification. Tags are usually chosen informally and personally by the author/creator or the consumer of the item, and are not usually as part of some formally defined classification scheme. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tag_%28metadata%29
Web Services	A Web Service is as a software system designed to support interaction between computers over a network such as the internet. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_service